

GED Essay Scoring Rubric

This tool is designed to help readers score an essay. Two readers read the GED essay, each giving a score between 1 and 4. The average of the two is the final score for the essay portion of the test. The score must be at least 2 to pass the test. Remember that an essay off of the given topic receives no score.

	Effective 4	Adequate 3	Marginal 2	Inadequate 1
Response to prompt	Presents a clearly focused main idea that addresses the prompt	Uses the writing prompt to establish a main idea	Addresses the prompt, though the focus may shift	Attempts to address prompt but with little or no success in establishing a focus
Organization	Establishes a clear and logical organization	Uses an identifiable organizational plan	Shows some evidence of an organizational plan	Fails to organize ideas
Development and Details	Achieves coherent development with specific and relevant details and examples	Has focused but occasionally uneven development; incorporates some specific detail	Has some development but lacks specific details; may be limited to a listing, repetitions, or generalizations	Demonstrates little or no development, usually lacks details or examples or presents irrelevant information
Conventions of EAE (Edited American English)	Consistently controls sentence structure and the conventions of EAE	Generally controls sentence structure and the conventions of EAE	Demonstrates inconsistent control of sentence structure and the conventions of EAE	Exhibits minimal or no control of sentence structure and the conventions of EAE
Word Choice	Exhibits varied and precise word choice.	Exhibits appropriate word choice	Exhibits a narrow range of word choice, often including inappropriate selection	Exhibits weak and/or inappropriate words

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